

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 27, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. THOMSON made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany Bill S. 222.]

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Mary Featherston, widow of John Featherston, late a boatswain in the United States navy, praying to be allowed a pension, beg leave to report:*

That it appears the husband of the petitioner was appointed boatswain in December, 1841, and died on the 30th October, 1852, at the navy-yard, Pensacola, Florida.

The records show that said Featherston died while in the line of his duty, at the navy-yard, as above stated, having been admitted on the sick list with fever on the 4th August preceding, and that his disease terminated in ascites, or dropsy in the belly, which ended in death.

Surgeon Hulse, of the United States navy, who was stationed there at the time, says Featherston was constantly attending to his duties in the navy-yard up to the date of his admission on the sick list, when he was attacked with fever, and that he has, no doubt, that several of the large viscera were, at the time of his admission, affected with a chronic disease, contracted under exposures, which it is now impossible to recognize or trace to their origin. The prominent feature eventually was dropsy, and all know that this disease is the result of complications in the great organs.

Your committee, after a full examination of the case, are of the opinion that the petitioner is entitled to relief, and report a bill accordingly, and recommend its passage.

